



# Wig and Courier.

John S. Hayward, —Editor.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1846.

## Retreat of the Mexicans &c.

The precipitate flight of the Mexican army from Matamoras to take their position at San Fernando, thirty leagues south, shows conclusively that they were prodigiously panic-stricken by the skill and bravery, and the destructive slaughter by our gallant little army under Gen. Taylor. It may be that by great reinforcements and by the uprising of the Mexican government and people to repel the invasion of the soil by our troops and the hope of the bad influences of the climate upon the health of our troops, they may be induced to rally for another pitched battle. The past fully proves, however, that they are not the stuff to stand against the energy of bravery, and skill of our people; and of this fact they must by this time be fully satisfied.

It is possible that they hope to decoy Gen. Taylor into their territory and by and by, make a desperate effort to redeem their credit and strike a heavy blow to our forces. But the successes of the past will not cause Gen. Taylor, the vigilant and active commander, to lose sight of his position. He has by his bravery, prudence and skill won the high meed of praise from his country and he will in no way jeopardize that fame.

Every one must be truly anxious now to know the course which the war is to take. If the Mexicans continue to retreat how far shall they be followed? It is said indeed that instructions have been given to the army to proceed into Mexico three hundred miles and there to await events. As yet we are not advised of the intentions of the government relative to the war, nor is it as yet certain what effect it may have upon our other foreign relations; but at present we have no reason, why, if our government has not a strong appetite for conquest and territory, the war may not be speedily closed and the usual intercourse between the two nations be opened. We strongly desire that this may happen, for no one can deny that the present state of affairs is working disastrously against the industry and prosperity of the people in all parts. The true welfare of our people and the prosperity of our country are to be found in the cultivation of peace and peaceful pursuits. We hope soon to have something more decisive.

## More Down East Ships.

We have recently examined very thoroughly a self-feeding machine for sawing laths, invented by two mechanics in Ellsworth, Daniel Salisbury and Benjamin Barker, and by them recently patented. It is a great labor saver as by a neat contrivance of an endless belt having several cams or hooks attached to it, and by which the timber to be sawed is pressed forward instead of the old method of having one hand to push the timber during the first part of the sawing and another to pull it during the remainder of the sawing. As soon as a lathe is sawn from the bolt, a plate at the end of the gauge, presses the bolt out from the saw upon the table while a sort of scraper pushes it endwise upon the table towards the saw tending the machine. These two movements are beautiful and are effected without any complicated machinery, and with utter certainty. There is also attached to the machine which counts the laths as they are sawn, and which gives an alarm on counting up a hundred.

We could readily describe the structure of the machine, and the movements by which these results are effected, but this would only be of service to mechanists, and they had better obtain the information from the model and specifications of the inventors.

Mr. J. C. Flint of this city is the agent of the inventors for the sale of the machines. Our eastern friends, particularly those who make a business of manufacturing laths, will find their interest promoted by the use of one of these machines as it will save them entirely the labor of one hand, and at the same time expedite the sawing of laths. They need but see it in operation to give it a hearty approval.

## Look out for Robbers.

Three stores in this city have been broken into during the present week, and more or less property or money stolen. The amount in cash thus far has been small but the fact that three stores in West-Market Place, and its immediate vicinity, have been broken into within the present week is calculated to arouse the public authorities, and the citizens generally to the most thorough measures for the purpose of setting out the robbers.

From the store of Messrs. G. R. Smith & Co. between twenty and thirty dollars were taken. Mr. Hyde's store trunk, containing his books and some change, was carried off with its contents. There was about five dollars in it. The trunk and books were found yesterday under a pile of boards, but the money had been taken. At A. H. Robt's store, between ten and fifteen dollars in money were taken. There were no goods missed from either of these stores.

We were informed last evening, after the above was to type, that our vigilante City Marshal, Simon F. Walker, Esq. had secured three boys who broke into the store, and part of the money taken therefrom.

We are also informed that the stores were robbed before 10 o'clock, P. M. No blame, therefore, should be attached to our faithful City Watchmen, as they are not required to commence their labors before that hour.

## Second Trial for Senator.

The Kennebec Journal says—The House assignment of Wednesday, for another trial to elect U. S. Senator, has not yet received the concurrence of the Senate. On Saturday the 1st was taken up, and motion made by Mr. Hodges of Aroostook, to postpone till the first Tuesday of July. That motion was laid on the table, and there remains at the present time—it is supposed by some, that an effort will be made to defer the election until the next session of the Legislature.

UP We are under obligations to Jerome & Co's Express, for Boston and New York papers, by the Postcoach which arrived here yesterday at about 3 o'clock.

It is expected that, at no distant day, there will be four commercial towns on Lake Erie, with 50,000 inhabitants each—Buffalo, Cleveland, Sandusky City and Toledo.

## Letter from Peter Wiggins.

SALY-RIVER, June 1st, 1846.—  
Mr. Printer:—I am dreadful sorry to trouble you again, with my affairs, but I suppose you won't mind it much, as you must by this time have got used to it, as the celestials did to being skinned—but I want a little advice, and if you are too busy, I wish you'd write to me, and just say what you think I ought to do.

When I was first lowered up here—which you know was a good while ago—I looked out for a

good location, and soon found a place to suit me, and took up a good large patch, enough for myself and all my boys. Well, you see, I lived very peacefully for quite a spell, for I hadn't got no neighbors near me to quarrel with, except Uncle Sam, whose farm joined on to my great sheep pasture, which I hadn't much use for, and Uncle John, who lived over 't other side of the mill-pond. Well, you see, as I hadn't great use for my sheep-pasture, I told one Austin, who had formerly lived in Uncle Sam's family, that he was a mind to settle on this sheep-pasture, and kind o' bring it to, like, that he might have

the use on it as long as he was a mind to, for nothing—that I never would ask him a cent for rent, only the land should always be mine. Well, you see, he liked the idea much—thought it was a right smart chance, and come right on, brought a lot of hired men, and began a chopping, and the first year he got quite a large clearing and put in a good crop. Think's Austin's doing business with a big Augur: I wonder where he gets his money to pay his help; and the first time I seed any of his men, I asked 'em who kind of a man Austin was to pay. Well, they said, he didn't pretend to pay money, but was to pay 'em in land. Land! says I, why he faints not to land to pay em with: this land aint mine. I only give him the care on it: the land is mine. This kind a struck 'em all in a heap, and they said they'd enquire about it. Well, I didn't hear any more about it for some time; but I found his family growed larger and larger, and that over earth he could find for 'em to do, I didn't know. So I happened over there one day to see how he got along, and I found he'd hired over lots of men of all sorts—lancers, horse-jockeys, rowdies, black-legs, thieves, rubbers & murielers. There was a motley crew of 'em, and I thought if he'd a naked villaindom with a fine-tooth comb, he couldn't have got an uglier set. Well, while I was talking with some of the men, Austin come out, and we had quite a chat; and among other things he told me he was going to put up a new machine. Says I, what kind of a machine? O, says he, it's a kind of independent, self-acting machine. Well, says I, you aint a going to put it up on my privilege, be your. Your privilege, says he, no, I'm going to put it up on mine. Well, says I, I didn't know you had any. Yes I have, says he—all this land that you see, is mine. When he said that, I thought I should burst. Says I, taunt you up, and you know it; and it you offer to put up any kind of machinery without my leave, I'll put in that sector that I told you of the other day, and shock my fist right in his face and left him. Well you see ever since we've been in a snarl. All this time Uncle Sam and Uncle John were looking on, each in hopes to gain something by the quarrel. I instructed that Uncle Sam 'end part of his family, rather encouraged Austin to go ahead, in hopes that he'd undertake more than he was ab'e, and stamp, and they'd come in for the spoils. Some of Uncle Sam's family told 'em so, but they denied it right up and down. But when Austin sent one of his men over to Uncle Sam to ask him if Austin had a right to my sheep-pasture, he had the audacity to tell him, yes—and then he sends to Uncle John, and he tells him the same story. This kind of encouraged him; for he thought, the darned fool!—that he became near the truth by being repeated by others. Well, you see, upon this he set his machine going, and sent word to him that just as soon as I had settled a little difficulty in my own family, I was coming down to stop his machine, and give him aortal lesson; and I began to believe that, for the next thing he'd do was that he was going to 'neck' sheep, lather to Uncle Sam's barn, and give up his machine, for it didn't work well; he hidest any machine to get the wheels with: there was too much friction, and the man that tended the works took a swift and was going to get up on his own account, and half the men would have gone with him, and Moore too, and he discovered that the motive power was a long pre-  
-Loco-motive, which had been tried repeatedly and always failed, and so he agreed to give Uncle Sam all the land that he hadnt promised to his hired men, which he made Uncle Sam believe was very valuable, if he would pay up a few due-bills that he'd given, and Uncle Sam was to have all the benefit of the machine, although Austin thinks that he (Austin) ought to have all the tools that come from the grists bre'y water.

Well, you see, Uncle Sam thought he'd made a great bargain, and sent some men over to explore and find the lincen; and these explores have concluded that the line of the sheep-pasture comes clear up to the ditch in my mowing-field, and one reason why they think so is, they find by inquiry that Austin has promised more land than there is in the pasture, and owes more than the whole sheep-pasture is worth, and more than the whole time that he was trading with Uncle Sam, he kept his hired men writing due-bills, and I shoudnt wonder much if it was true, and I don't care much if he does cheat Uncle Sam.

Uncle John don't like these things very well, and looks rather cool at Uncle Sam, not because he likes me, but because he thinks that Uncle Sam made a good bargain out of Austin, and he was in hopes to make something out of him himself.

Now, Mr. Printer, I want you advice, for I don't know but I shall try to kick Uncle Sam and Austin too. When you write, I want you to tell me all the news. We heard up the other day that you had some prospect of a war with Mexico, on account of Texas. I hope if you do, that all those that were so much in favor of Texas will volunteer to defend her, and I hope 'twll be no more than eight that they should have the first chance, and that will carry on their own doctrine that 't's 'em that's got the most to do with it, and the more 'em that are there that go, the more spuds there will be, for they generally spend every thing they have to do with.

Yours till death,  
Peter Wiggins.

UP Marcus Morton has been confirmed as Collector at Boston.

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